15th February 1958]

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : As a number of small-scale irrigation schemes have been proposed by the District Planning Committees of Chingleput and North Arcot districts and, I believe, of other districts also, will the Government consider the question of investigating these small or medium sized irrigation schemes to improve the irrigation sources of the different districts? 3-20 p.m.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : That is a general question. The main question relates to Chembarampakkam tank only.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Apart from the low-level or there being no water in this tank, there is no electricity connection in the travellers' bungalow very near the tank. May I know whether, because of the low-level, the Government do not want to electrify the travellers' bungalow? (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I wish we could produce some electricity from the water resources there.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : May I know whether some special arrangement could be made to deepen the Kambakkal and Chatrakal channels? Because, on a personal visit to that place last month, I found that there was no free flow of water to feed the Chembarampakkam tank.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : These were the very things that were investigated by the Executive Engineer. This is a case of lack of water resources, due to inadequate rain. When there is no water at all, there is no point in merely deepening the channels.

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY : May I know whether it will affect the water-supply to the City of Madras?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The City water-supply will not be affected.

SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY : Thank you, Sir.

Repairs to school building damaged by cyclone in November 1955

* 23 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of aided elementary schools in Tanjore district that applied to the District Collector, Tanjore, for grant from the Madras Cyclone Relief Fund for carrying out repairs to school buildings damaged by the cyclone in November 1955; and

(*b*) the number of schools that were given such grants and the total number given?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) & (*b*) Four schools applied and one school, viz., the Kasturba Kanya Gurukulam of Vedaranyam, was given grant of Rs. 11,000.

[15th February 1958

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : May I know why the grant in respect of the other institutions was refused?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Because we considered that they did not deserve that help.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that a particular institution was promised grant by the District Collector and that when the application actually reached the District Collector, the District Collector said that it was belated and that the school could not get any grant?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I am not aware of that particular instance.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : If there is such a case, will the Government kindly consider the case and allow the grant to be made from the General Revenues even if the Cyclone Relief Fund might have been closed?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : As the hon. Member himself has mentioned, I do not think we have any amount in the Cyclone Relief Fund. Moreover, I do not think that we should continue this relief even after two or three years of cyclone havoc.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : As a concluding point, may I say that the District Collector asked the particular school to just forward the application through the District Educational Officer and when that was recommended, it was returned as belated? So, will the Government kindly consider the case of this school in Mannargudi favourably?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I do not think I can give any assurance that it could be considered. Because, there is no amount in the Cyclone Relief Fund which could be allotted for this purpose.

Bridge across the Cauvery near Musiri

* 24 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal before the Government to construct a bridge across the Cauvery near Musiri (Tiruchirappalli district); and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Minister for Public Works) : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : May I know whether the Government have investigated the need and possibility of construction of a bridge at the place indicated, what the cost of the scheme is and whether the Government will at least consider its inclusion in the Third Plan?